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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Update 1 – 11:10 a.m.

City working to unblock sewer pipe

City crews are working this morning to unblock a sewer pipe that this is causing sewage to spill into two basins between Hewlett's Way and Warlick Drive. According to information known at this time, officials believe that the line is blocked in two locations, causing sewage to come up from two manholes.

The blocked line is a smaller sewer pipe that runs parallel to the nearby Northeast Interceptor (NEI) pipeline in that area. Estimates on how much have spilled out are not yet available, but because the blocked pipe is a gravity line and not a pressurized line like the NEI, the flow is much lower.

At this time, the sewage has not reached nearby Hewlett's Creek. Trucks are on standby to begin pumping the waste water back into the manholes as soon as the pipes are unblocked. The cause of the blockage is not known.

The City began checking the area last night after receiving calls about a strong odor from residents in the area. The blockage was located early this morning when it was light enough to see.

Services to drinking water or waste water have not been affected. However, as a precaution, the city recommends that citizens not come into contact with the water. Updates will be provided as information becomes available.

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For more information, contact city Public Information Officer Malissa Talbert at 342-2736 or 470-8720.